

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MERGING SCAN FILES INTO A COLOR WORKFLOW

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ABSTRACT

A method and system for scanning documents in a network environment and
10 merging the resulting scan files with other documents into a printing workflow
provides a user interface in which the user merges a scan file and a document
file on a page basis by selecting thumbnail images of the desired pages and
dragging and dropping the thumbnails so that a new merged document results.
An alternative embodiment allows the user to apply predefined merge
15 templates to the selected pages. The predefined merge templates may include
printing and formatting instructions such as color settings and a page layout.

The system architecture provides a color print server and a client workstation in
communication with the color print server. A scanning device, which may be a
20 dedicated scanner or the platen of a copying machine is connected to the color
print server or the client workstation. The scanning software, resident on either
the color print server or the workstation allows the user to customize the scan
and apply modifications to the image after scanning. Scanned images may be
retrieved by email or over the World Wide Web. The color print server and the
25 attached scanning device may also function as a color copier.